THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and the Department of Women and Child Development, the nodal Ministries/Departments, are supporting the States/UTs for taking care of the orphans and widows of the Tsunami disaster. This includes setting up of additional orphanages and widow homes, wherever required.

Child Trafficking after Tsunami

2379. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI.
SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of Government to tackle the child trafficking issue that has emerged after Tsunami crisis;

(b) whether India too is contemplating on the lines of Sri Lanka to put a blanket ban on adoption of displaced children; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) The Ministry of Home Affairs issued instructions to all the States/UTs to keep a strict vigil against trafficking of children of Tsunami disaster. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment was made the nodal Ministry to look after the welfare of the children affected by the Tsunami disaster. There are no reports of any trafficking of children so far.

(b) and (c) 529 children are reported to have become orphans in the Tsunami. The State Governments/UT Administrations and the community have decided to take care of these children themselves and most likely no adoption outside will take place.

Left wing extremism in Bihar

2380. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that left wing extremism thrives in Bihar; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The naxal violence in Bihar increased during 2004 as compared to 2003.

(b) Inter-Party clashes involving CPML-PW, MCCI, CPML-Liberation and Ranvir Sena mainly led to this increase besides spread of naxal activities in parts other than South Bihar.

The Government has asked the naxal affected States to intensify anti-naxalite operations keeping the door for a peace dialogue with naxal groups open. Besides reviewing and co-ordinating the steps taken by the States to counter the menace of naxalism by the Coordination Centre and the Task Force on Naxalism, the MHA provides financial assistance to the naxal affected States in the form of reimbursement of the security related expenditure under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) scheme. Funds are also provided for modernization of State Police forces for upgrading the weaponry, equipment mobility, training etc. under the Police Modernization (PM) Scheme to enable them to effectively meet the threat to internal security and law and order posed by the naxals.

On the development side, the Central Government has advised the States to accord a higher priority in their annual plans for the accelerated integrated development of the naxal affected districts. On its part, the Central Government has included 55 districts in 9 States including Bihar badly affected by naxalism under the Backward Districts Initiative (BDI) component of the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY).

Developing capabilities to deal with nuclear disaster

2381. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are developing capabilities of effectively dealing with nuclear disaster, either deliberately designed by any belligerent nation or through sheer accident;

(b) if so, how active association ordinary citizens being primary victims, with such an exercise is being sought; and

(c) whether any guidelines being structured to be followed and practised by such functionaries from time to time and their percolation at ground level?